GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1570
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
GROWTH RATE OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that growth of agriculture sector has been fluctuating in the recent past;

(b) if so, the growth rate of agriculture in the country during each of the last three years;

(c) the steps being taken presently relating to crop specific development programme for increasing growth rate in agriculture;

(d) the steps taken so far and achievement made in regard to programme of the Government for doubling the agricultural production in the next 10 years; and

(e) the total amount of gross national income being spent in agriculture sector at present?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): Yes Sir.

(b): According to the latest estimates of National Income released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the growth rates of the Agriculture & Allied Sector consisting of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Fishing sectors,measured in terms of gross value addition in the sector at 1993-94 prices , for the last three years are as under:

Year	Percent growth of Gross Value Addition in Agriculture & Allied Sector at 1993-94 prices
1997-98	-2.4
1998-99	7.1
1999-2000	0.7

(c) & (d): The Government is implementing crop specific centrally sponsored schemes such as Integrated Development Programmes in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals BasedCropping System, National Pulse Development Project,Oilseeds Production Programme, and Technology Mission on Cotton etc. for increasing production and productivity of various crops. Under these programmes/projects, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of Integrated Pest Management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation and use of improved farm implements. In addition, field demonstrations on farmers` holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Further, a central sector scheme on development of fruits and vegetables is being implemented. Under fruit scheme, assistance is being provided for establishment of nurseries and tissue culture units for distribution of quality planting material, area expansion, frontline demonstration, rejuvenation of senile orchards, training of farmers, disease forecasting units and horticulture mechanization. Under the scheme of Integrated Development of Vegetables, the emphasis is laid on production of planting material especially onion and potato, improvement of production and productivity, technology transfer, on-farm post-harvest handling and development of information system. These programmes implemented in conjunction with the regionally differentiated growth strategy based on different agro-climatic zones, are expected to bring about the required growth rate on the average to achieve the target of doubling the food production in the next 10 years.

(e): The amount spent out of the Gross National Income inthe Agriculture & Allied Sector in the form of Gross Capital Formation at 1993-94 prices for the year 1999-2000 as compiled by CSO is Rs. 21,388 crores.